

Influenza Proclamation

On October 5, 2004, it was announced that approximately one-half of the anticipated 100 million doses of influenza vaccine that were planned to be distributed in the United States would not be available.

Influenza, commonly known as "the flu" can cause serious and potentially life-threatening medical complications in individuals with medical risk factors of any age, or those in age groups at particular risk for complications.

Because of this urgent situation, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in coordination with the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) issued interim recommendations for influenza vaccination during this 2004-05 season.

In order to support and promote the continuing efforts to prevent and control diseases that affect public health, the Indiana State Department of Health will:

- 1) Continue to communicate and seek guidance from the CDC concerning supplies and recommended protocols for influenza vaccination in order to determine and direct vaccine distribution.
- 2) Continue to monitor state and local influenza vaccine supply and demand.
- 3) Continue to coordinate efforts among Local Health Departments, community medical providers, and other health care organizations to ensure vaccine is administered to those individuals at highest risk for serious complications from influenza.
- 4) Monitor and report instances where vaccines are being administered contrary to CDC recommendations and without recognition of the serious vaccine shortfall facing the citizens of Indiana.
- Take all other efforts deemed necessary by the State Health Commissioner to implement this proclamation for the protection of the health of the citizens of the State of Indiana.

GREGORY A. WILSON, M.D. STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

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